

SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION:

The specification has been rewritten per MPEP 608.01(q) as follows:

Referring to the drawings in detail, FIGS. 1 and 2 show the two main components of the invention, comprising a wheeled suitcase 10 having an a main access opening 11, and a garment holder bag 20 having an access opening 21. The suitcase 10 comprises a substantially rectangular hollow box with a main access opening 11 and a secondary access opening 15 along the top surface 16 of suitcase 10, as shown in FIG. 6, and a retractable handle 12 on the top rear portion that extends beyond the plane of the top surface 16 and wheels 14 along the rear edge of the bottom portion. The wheeled suitcase 10 is loaded with shoes, toiletries, and smaller articles of clothing through main access opening 11. FIG 6 shows the door of main access opening 11 opened to expose the interior 18 of suitcase 10. Main access opening 11 is preferably releasably secured with a zipper 13 extending substantially around 3 sides of the perimeter of access opening 11. Large articles of clothing, including but not limited to suits, dresses, and coats, are loaded into the garment holder bag 20 through access opening 21. Access opening 21 is preferably releasably secured with a zipper extending substantially around 3 sides of the perimeter of garment holder bag 20 so that garment holder bag 20 may be opened to form two opposing halves connected along one edge 23 as shown in FIG 3.

~~The four long corner edges 17 of suitcase 10 have foam padding (not shown) beneath the outer fabric of suitcase 10 to soften and round the corners so when the garment holder 20 is wrapped around the suitcase 10 it gently curves around the suitcase to minimize the chance of creasing the clothing contained inside the garment holder 20.~~

FIG 3. shows the garment holder bag 20 completely opened up showing the inner surfaces, 27 and 28 of the two opposing halves, the exterior fabric half 24 and the interior fabric half 25. The exterior fabric half 24 of garment holder bag 20 is preferably made from a ballistic-weave polyester or nylon fabric with a waterproof coating 29 on the inside face surface 27 of the exterior fabric 24. The interior fabric half 25 of garment holder bag 20 is made from a lighter weave fabric to save weight and cost. After opening the garment holder bag 20 ~~and exposing the interior for loading large clothing into the garment holder~~, clothes are placed onto the inside face 27 of the exterior fabric half 24 of the garment holder bag 20. ~~After all the clothing is placed onto the exterior fabric half 24 of garment holder 20~~ The opposing interior fabric half 25 is then placed over the clothing and the two

fabric halves are joined together by sliding closing the integral zipper along access opening 21 shown in FIG 2. The garment holder bag 20 is now ready to be attached to the suitcase 10. After the suitcase 10 and garment holder bag 20 are loaded with clothing, the user places the garment holder bag 20 ~~is placed~~ on a large flat surface, a bed or table for example, and ~~places the~~ suitcase 10 ~~on top of~~ is placed adjacent to the top end 22 of garment holder bag 20 as shown in FIG 4. ~~The top end 22 of garment holder 20 is aligned with one edge of suitcase 10 and connected to the suitcase 10 with attachment means preferably including 3 clips 30 on the top end 22 of garment holder 20 that are aligned with and connected to complementary clips (not shown for clarity) on the suitcase 10.~~ Attachment means, preferably a set of three clips 30 on the top end 22 of garment bag 20 are connected to corresponding clips 31 on the suitcase 10. The attachment means may alternatively include one or more strips of hook and loop style fastener material 40 on the garment holder bag 20 that are aligned with complementary strips of hook and loop fastener material 40 on the suitcase 10. For purposes of clarity, hook and loop fastener strips 40 are only shown on exposed surfaces of the suitcase 10 ~~and garment bag 20~~. After the suitcase 10 is attached to the garment holder bag 20, the user rolls the suitcase 10 along the long axis of the garment holder bag 20 so the garment holder bag 20 becomes completely wrapped around the outside of the suitcase 10 FIG 5. When the garment holder bag 20 is wrapped around the suitcase 10 the interior fabric side 25 of garment holder bag 20 will be in contact with the exterior surfaces of the suitcase 10 and the exterior fabric side 24 of garment bag 20 will face out and provide ~~the a~~ protective surface for the clothes contained inside the garment bag 20.

After the garment holder bag 20 has been completely wrapped around the suitcase 10 it is secured in place with 3 clips 30 33 at the bottom end of garment bag 20 attached to complementary clips 34 on the suitcase or on the outside surface of exterior fabric side 24 of the garment bag 20, shown in FIG 4. The last step in the process is to tighten the straps 50 ~~connected to the clips 30~~ by pulling on them until the garment holder bag 20 is held tightly against the suitcase 10. The combination of clips tightened with straps, and hook and loop fastener strips 40, hold the garment holder bag 20 securely against the suitcase 10 and prevent slipping and movement of the clothing contained therein. FIG. 5 shows the garment holder bag completely wrapped around the suitcase with where only the outer surface 24 of garment bag 20 is visible. All fasteners have been removed for clarity.

While traveling it may be desirable to access the interior of suitcase 10 without removing garment

holder bag 20 to reach main access door 11. FIG. 6 shows the suitcase 10 without the garment bag 20 where the top access door 15 of suitcase 10 is opened up to expose the interior 18 of suitcase 10. Access door 15 is releasably securable with a zipper 16 extending around 3 sides of the perimeter of access door 15.

Because the garment holder bag 20 wraps around the suitcase 10 without being completely folded as with conventional garment bags, FIG 6. shows the four long corner edges 41 of suitcase 10 are not at right angles as in a conventional suitcase but have a radius of curvature 42 so there is no pressure point that might crease the clothing in the garment holder bag 20. One possible method of manufacture to achieve these rounded edges is to use a curved piece of molded plastic as a frame member of suitcase 10 either beneath or on the outside of the exterior fabric. Another method to achieve rounded edges is to use an internal frame utilizing vertical rods of circular cross section placed along each corner edge 41 so that the exterior fabric of suitcase 10 wraps around and conforms to the shape of these frame rods. These examples are meant to show possible methods of manufacture and are not intended to limit other designs to someone skilled in the art.

Combining a garment bag and a wheeled suitcase into one apparatus, as described in this specification, has many advantages over existing luggage. All conventional luggage, from carry-on size up to the largest suitcase, requires large clothing to be folded to fit inside. Large luggage may require clothes be folded in half, and the smaller and more popular carry-on size luggage requires large clothing to be folded in thirds. The result is that the folded clothing will develop at least one and typically two creases due to being folded. The invention described herein does away with the need to fold large clothing. By wrapping the garment holder bag around the exterior padded corners of the a suitcase with rounded edges, large clothing gently wraps around the corners perimeter of the suitcase, eliminating folding and creasing and reducing the chance for the clothes to become wrinkled. Wrapping large clothing around the outside of the suitcase also frees up space inside the suitcase. This allows the suitcase to be made smaller than a conventional suitcase. The result of reducing the size of the suitcase is that it weighs less and is easier to lift and easier to fit in confined spaces such as the overhead bins on an airplane.

While the invention has been described in connection with a preferred embodiment, it is not intended to limit the scope of the invention to the particular form set forth, but on the contrary, it is

intended to cover such alternatives, modifications, and equivalents as may be included within the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims.